



President Inman E. Page, for sixteen years head of the C. A. & N. University.

Inman E. Page, President of this institution, was born in Warrenton, Fauquier Co., Va., December 29, 1853. He attended a private school in Washington, D. C. for nearly three years, which was conducted by Mr. George F. T. Cook, who, for many years, was Superintendent of the colored schools of the District of Columbia. In 1868 he became a student at Howard University, Washington, D. C., and continued there until he finished his Freshman year in the Collegiate department. In the fall of 1873 he entered Brown University, Providence, R. I., where he studied four years. He was graduated from this institution in 1877.

In the fall of 1877 he began his work as a teacher at the Natchez Seminary, Natchez, Miss. In the following summer he was elected Vice-President of Lincoln Institute, Jefferson City, Mo. When he had served two years in this position he was made President. This position he held eighteen years. In 1898 he was elected President of the C. A. & N. University.

Some years ago Brown University conferred upon him the degree of M. A., and in June last he was given the degree of LL.D. by Howard University, Washington, D. C., and Wilberforce University, Xenia, Ohio.

Prof. Page married in June, 1878, at Providence, R. I., to Miss Julia Ball. Three children came to them, two girls and one boy. Both girls are still living. One is the wife of Prof. Roland Pyrtle, principal of the colored schools at Chickasha, and the other, Mrs. Breun, is instructor of music at the C. A. and N. University. She is leader of the University band and is generally considered a real musical genius.

The C. A. and N. University was established by an act of the Territorial legislature in 1897 and Prof. Page was elected president. In 1898 the school was opened in a small four-room building with forty pupils, 19 acres and four teachers. The institution now has 40 teachers and over 600 pupils; 320 acres of land, cultivated by the students of this institution and ten buildings. Every legislature since 1897 has appropriated money to sustain this institution, and every administration up to this time has been favorably disposed toward it. During the last state legislature when all the state institutions were threatened with liquidation, Prof. Page spoke to the House of Representatives and induced the investigating committee to visit the C. A. and N. University and investigate it from the interior to the president, and assured them that it was a well-run and no irregularities. He was loudly applauded by members of the House, but the investigating committee did not accept his invitation.

Last June a branch Normal of this institution was opened at Muskogee for the benefit of those in the past side of the state who wished to take normal and collegiate instruction to prepare for county or state school work.

Mrs. Page who has never been away from the side of her husband has charge of the girl students of this institution.

expected to bring his bed clothing. Facilities are provided for students to do their own washing, or they can have it done for \$1 a month. All students are required to pay their board monthly in advance. Those who fail to do so will be sent home at the expiration of two weeks.

Examinations.
General examinations are held at the close of each term, and special examinations and written tests may be held within the vacation period at any time, at the discretion of the instructors. In making out the standing of students, equal weight is given to the daily standing during the term and to the written examination at the close of the term. The minimum grade required is 75 per cent. Students failing below this grade during the year are required to repeat the work the next year.

Discipline and Government.
The regulations of the institution are few and simple, appealing to the student's sense of honor and personal responsibility. He is required to be present at all exercises, to abstain from the use of tobacco and intoxicating liquor, not to have in his possession gambling devices or deadly weapons, to abstain from the use of profane or indecent language, and attend a church of his choice once every Sabbath day. No student is allowed to leave the university grounds without special permission.

All students are presumed to come to the university for the purpose of availing themselves of the advantages offered for education and improvement. Those who conduct themselves in a contrary manner will be suspended from the privileges of the institution.

Courses Offered.
I. Agriculture courses.

1. Three-year course.
2. One-year course.
- II. College courses.
 1. Architectural.
 2. Classical.
 3. Scientific.
 4. Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.
- III. Normal course.
- IV. Preparatory courses.
 1. Classical.
 2. Scientific.
- V. Elementary course.
- VI. Trade courses.
 1. Blacksmithing.
 2. Carpentry.
 3. Foundry work.
 4. Machine work.
 5. Steam engineering.
 6. Domestic science.
- VII. Household art courses.
 1. Dressmaking.
 2. Millinery.
 3. Plain sewing.
- VIII. Commercial course.
- IX. Nurse training course.

Uncle Sam is congratulating himself that Greece didn't get those two battleships C. O. D.

The National League has insured its umpires. We had supposed that umpires and battleships were not accepted by the underwriters.

Contentment that causes a man to regard the fringe on his trousers with indifference is not the kind that should be cultivated.

Hell's most successful recruiting stations seldom have an unpleasant appearance.

Tulsa is a good place in which to live. In reciting the history of the progress of the successful Negro men

and women, one simply rehearses the old, old story of the great opportunities offered the settler and investor in Oklahoma, the Creek Nation and that part of what we call Tulsa and Tulsa county.

Located in this section are the great Mid-Continent oil fields, perhaps the greatest in America. A few Negroes have holdings in these fields, and while some are receiving large incomes from this source, others are holding their possessions, awaiting a time when the Negro race generally turns its attention to high class, legitimate investment and speculation. Some of the holdings owned absolutely by Negroes in this section will easily sell upon the market at as low as \$250.00 per acre, and their tracts cover eighty to one hundred and sixty acres. We will yet hear of a successful Negro oil and gas company, owned and operated by the people of our own race.

Among the farmers of this section, there are a large number who own excellent farms and ranches, with modern and up-to-date improvements. It is not possible to give exact figures, showing the amount of taxable property owned by our people in this section, but the visitor will be most favorably impressed with a trip through Tulsa and Tulsa county, where he will notice comfortable and elaborate homes, surrounded with good orchards and arranged according to the most modern plans of farmsteads.

Perhaps there is less farm land for sale in this section than in any other part of the state. The fertile valleys yield in such abundance that the owners prefer to hold their lands and invest the income from their farms. This is not a cotton section, and the acreage of this staple is notoriously small. Live stock and grains and grasses are the wealth-yielding products of Tulsa and Tulsa county. Good roads are the rule on account of the automobile traffic to and from the oil fields.

J. W. WILLIAMS. AUTOMOBILE EXPERT.

J. W. Williams is a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., born July 2, 1885, being now only 29 years of age. His early education was received in the public schools of Pittsburgh.

At the age of 14 he drifted to Memphis, Tenn. Starting so early in life to shift for himself, he worked around places where machinery was used, and here learned his first lessons in the work which made him a success in the face of all the opposition which the people of his race meet at all times. While living in Memphis, he worked as fireman on the Illinois Central railroad, and also as engineer at the Memphis Cotton Oil mill.

Leaving Memphis as a man, he located at Magnolia, Ark. and worked for four years, superintending the Magnolia Cotton Oil company. Leaving here, he came to Tulsa and worked as a helper for the paving company which paved the first streets of Tulsa. By careful saving he accumulated a small bank account and later bought the first automobile for the accommodation of Negro passengers. While in the automobile livery business, he studied carefully the mechanism of the various makes of machines, and gradually applied this knowledge in establishing a garage repair trade.

Today Mr. Williams has an acquaintance among automobile owners which extends far and near, throughout Oklahoma and other states. He owns a garage and automobile livery in Tulsa, employs a force of five mechanics and chauffeurs, and has a business with a gross income of about \$500 per month.

Besides this business, Mr. Williams is erecting a modern \$10,000 theatre and hotel in a two-story brick building built and owned by him. Mr. Williams is a hard and steady worker, and as a self-made man of business, having opened up a new avenue of employment and investment, he has demonstrated that race and color are not such serious barriers to business as many would have us believe.

He was married to Miss Lula Cotton, his present wife, and together they have since fought the battle of life. One child, a boy, was born to them, and he is now taking business training under his industrious parents.

MRS. S. T. PARTEE.

Mrs. S. T. Partee was born in Florence, Ala., January 11, 1877. Her father died 30 years ago, but Mrs. Partee had the good fortune to have

a mother's care and presence until April 25, 1913, at which time her mother died, after a long and useful life. Mrs. Partee attended the public schools of her native home until 1895, after which she attended school at the Normal, Ala. College, and was in the graduating class of 1899. After graduating, she taught one year at Huntsville, Ala., and married her present husband, L. P. Partee, in January, 1900, in the A. M. E. church of Florence. Mrs. Partee is interested in the affairs of women in the home and church, and has a host of friends among the best people of the state.

MR. L. P. PARTEE. CARPENTER AND CONTRACTOR.

L. P. Partee was born May 26, 1867, in Murray county, Tenn. His father, Henry Partee, died when he was five years old. His mother died when he was eleven. Since that age, Mr. Partee has been forced to make life alone.

He remained in Murray county until he was 21, attending the public schools about three months altogether. His first attempt to do business for himself was in Christian county, Tenn., at the age of 22. Here he began buying log timber, without a dollar of capital. His business grew until he accumulated \$1,350 in timber which was carried away by high water, leaving him penniless again.

At the age of 25 he worked for the United States government as river and harbor superintendent in Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky and Ohio. In this capacity he worked eleven years, and bought him a farm of 75 acres in Wilson county, Tennessee, for \$1,875.

At 21 years of age, he married, but his wife lived only three years, and left a girl 18 months old, who still lives with her father, and is at present a teacher in the city schools of Tulsa.

In 1903, he sold his farm for what he paid for it (\$1,875) and came to Oklahoma, locating at Guthrie, where he stayed eighteen months, before moving to Tulsa. Since living in Tulsa Mr. Partee has been successful. He owns seven houses, one of which is brick, and in the near future he will build a brick store and office building. His present holdings are easily worth \$15,000.

MRS. LULU T. "COTTON" WILLIAMS. WILLIAMS' CONFECTIONERY.

Mrs. Lulu Williams, proprietor of the Williams Confectionery, is unquestionably the foremost business woman of the state, among Negro women. Starting five years ago in a very small corner store in Tulsa, with comparatively small capital, saved from her earnings as a country school teacher, she has, by close attention to business, built up step by step, until today she has a business running \$1,200 to \$1,500 per month, conducted in her own three-story brick building, which is strictly modern in all its appointments, and besides an account in the bank, has a credit rating of \$10,000.

In her dealings, she is absolutely fair with every transaction and her word in any matters has never been questioned. Her disposition is pleasant at all times, and her friends among all classes of people of either race in this section are numbered only by those who have come in contact with her upon business or social lines.

Her judgment in matters of business is equal to that of the most experienced business men, and for this reason she has made few mistakes. As a progressive woman, she is ever pleased to support any worthy cause, which has for its purpose the advancement of the race.

Mrs. Williams is a native of Jackson, Madison county, Tenn. She was educated in Lane College, in her home town. After leaving school, she taught in the schools of the state of Tennessee until coming to Oklahoma. After teaching in this state two years, she embarked in business as stated and her success throughout has been well and fairly earned. Mrs. Williams is yet a young woman, feeling a great responsibility ahead in educating her young son, Willie, to succeed her in the management of her affairs. She and her husband are partners in business.

J. W. JOHNSON, THE BLIND BUSINESS MAN.

Most people think that to be blind is to be useless and helpless and in most cases this is true.

But the subject of this sketch is a grand exception to the rule. Mr. Johnson was born in Eudora, Kan.,

April 4, 1866. He attended public school there in his early youth and at the age of 20 went into the meat market business. Later he traveled extensively and gained a wide knowledge of the world. He followed construction work for awhile in Missouri and Kentucky. In '86, he went to Kansas City, Kan., and opened a confectionery and ice cream parlor. He conducted this very successfully for eight years. In 1900 he came to Oklahoma, locating at McAlester, where he was employed by the M. K. & T. railroad company as machinist and "powder man," in charge of the magazine where all high power explosives were kept for use in the work of cutting through the right of way. He was also foreman of construction work. He had worked at this sixteen months, when one day a terrible accident occurred which deprived him of his sight and almost cost him his life. He had charged a hole and lighted the fuse and went away to await the explosion, which he expected to lift tons of heavy rock from the earth. The fuse was longer than he had calculated and when sufficient time had elapsed, as he thought, and no explosion came, he returned to the charged hole to investigate. Just as he bent over the hole, however, there came a great crash, the earth trembled and crumbled under him and all was darkness. Fellow laborers picked up bloody pieces of his hat fifty yards from the scene, thinking they were pieces of his head. He was later found a short distance from the spot, his face and head a mass of lacerated flesh, still conscious, and was taken to a hospital, where it was found that his eyes were completely gone. At first his misfortune worried him greatly, but when he thought of his miraculous escape from death, he reconciled himself to his new state of conditions, and determined to make the best of his life. Just how well he has succeeded is shown by the following facts:

The same year of his misfortune, he opened a grocery store and embarked in business. Since that time he has bought and paid for two residence lots and built on them, and two business lots on which he has built store rooms and stocked them up with groceries. Though blind, he planned all of his buildings and fixtures and is general manager of all his business. His latest effort was the opening of a cafe, which is doubtless the pride of the colored people of McAlester. He not only planned the fixtures for this cafe, but himself fitted up the gas stove and made all the different connections, unassisted. So sensitive has grown his touch that he makes all change for the customers of his largest store where he stays, and never makes a mistake. He can even distinguish the difference in bills or currency money. Just how it is possible for a blind man to do all this is hard for anyone to tell, but these are well-known facts to McAlester people. Mr. Johnson has one daughter, who is now living with him. He employs several people in his business which is rated at almost \$30,000. He likes to converse and have the daily papers read to him.

He is a great race man and finds a great deal of delight in having race papers read to him. There is no better posted man in Oklahoma than Mr. Johnson.

Mr. W. A. Mayes, of Bristow, was born in Nashville, Tenn., October 23, 1879, moved with his parents to the Indian Territory, settled four miles west of Muskogee, worked on the farm as laborer for \$20 a month. He saved money out of each month's wages. He began trading and made good. He then worked on shares and was very successful and owns in his own right seven hundred acres of good tableland, with six hundred acres in cultivation, that yields from three to four thousand bushels of corn and fifty bales of cotton. He stepped out into the wide and busy world with no help, but a good purpose and a clear head, with nothing to his credit but a good name, willing to labor and sacrifice, he fears nothing but loss of his independence, has everything to gain and nothing to lose, a mind to embrace every opportunity, nothing but positive disability can keep him back. He is truly a progressive Negro, gives work to four wage hands and twelve families on his plantation, is worth twenty to twenty-five thousand dollars, has a beautiful home, a wife and three children. His word is as good where he is known as government bonds. His friends are innumerable, and he has the respect of both white and colored.